

Upper Republican Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

Upper Republican Regional Advisory Committee Meeting

9:00 AM (CST), Thursday, February 4, 2021

GoTo Webinar/Conference Call

Members in Attendance:

Name	City	Category	Term	Present
Mike Schultz (Chair)	Brewster, KS	Public Water Supply (cc)	2023	Yes
Shannon Kenyon (Vice-Chair)	Colby, KS	Groundwater Management	2023	Yes
Brian Baalman	Menlo, KS	Industry/Commerce (cc)	2021	No
Adriaan (Ian) De Waal	St. Francis, KS	Agriculture (cc)	2023	No
Sue Evans	Colby, KS	At Large Public (cc)	2021	Yes
Gary Fisher	Atwood, KS	Local Government	2021	No
Tyson McGreer	Colby, KS	Public Water Supply 2	2021	No
Scott Ross	Atwood, KS	Conservation/Environment (cc)	2021	Yes
VACANT		Agriculture Industry	2023	N/A
VACANT		At Large Public 2	2023	N/A
VACANT		Conservation/Environment 2	2023	N/A
VACANT		Agriculture 2	2021	N/A

Others in attendance:

Name	Agency
Keadron Pearson	KWO
Kirk Tjelmeland	KWO
Lauren Koons	KWO
Gary Koons	KWO
Dan Wells	KDHE
Chelsea Erickson	KDA-DWR
Kevin Klag	KDWPT

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** The meeting was called to order at 9:03 AM. (CST) by Chairman, Mike Shultz. All present provided self-introductions.
2. **Review of Agenda:** The agenda was reviewed. No changes requested by the RAC members.
3. **Review of July 2020 Meeting Notes:** The meeting notes were reviewed. There were no changes requested by the RAC members.
4. **Updates**
 - a. **Kansas Water Authority (KWA):** Keadron Pearson (KWO) informed the RAC of recent updates that had occurred to the KWA.
 - b. **Kansas Water Officer (KWO):** Keadron Pearson (KWO) gave an update on personnel and agency changes that had occurred since the last RAC meeting.
 - c. **Legislative:** Keadron Pearson (KWO) gave an overview on the House Committee on Water. She also provided an update on what has been occurring with the State Water Plan Budget.

Membership: Mike Schultz (Chair), Brewster, KS; Shannon Kenyon (Vice-Chair), Colby, KS; Brian Baalman, Menlo, KS; Gary Fisher, Atwood, KS; Tyson McGreer, Colby, KS; Adriaan (Ian) De Waal, St. Francis, KS; Sue Evans, Colby, KS; Scott Ross, Atwood, KS

KWO Planner: Keadron Pearson, 620-765-7489; keadron.pearson@kwo.ks.gov

5. Regional Activities

- a. **Kansas Water Plan Update:** Keadron Pearson (KWO) shared with the RAC the progress that there had been on the Kansas Water Plan update. The group was shown where they could find the draft sections of the Water Plan that had been presented to the KWA and other pertinent information on the KWO web page.
- b. **Goals & Actions Plan Discussion:** RAC members discussed ways to start carrying out their Goals and Actions Plan and initial steps that can be taken. They also talked about information that would be helpful to have presented to the committee at future meetings. It was agreed that the Planner, Keadron Pearson, would work closely with the chair to set up future agenda items for meetings.
- c. **Membership & Future Meetings:** Keadron Pearson (KWO) informed the RAC of members whose terms are up for renewal this year and that they will be receiving further information in the coming months on this. It was the consensus of the RAC to try and have meetings quarterly.

6. Other Business

a. **Agency Reports:**

Dan Wells (KDHE): Reported that they are partnering with Fort Hays State University doing groundwater studies in the region to test for uranium level over a two year period. This will be a voluntary program for landowners that wish to participate.

Chelsea Erickson (KDA-DWR Stockton Field Office): Reported on the occurrence of flood flow issues in the lower Republican River area. They anticipated the region to receive some spring moisture. She also gave an update on their current working conditions and programs available.

Shannon Kenyon (GMD4): Informed members of current programs and of upcoming board meeting.

Kevin Klag (KDWPT): Reported that they were continuing to work with the Cheyenne County Conservation District on their RCPP application and the South Fork Republican River Restoration Program.

b. **Public Comments:** None

c. **Questions and Future Agenda Items from RAC Members:** None

d. **Messages to the KWA:** None

e. **Future Meetings:**

- i. GMD4 Board Meeting: February 10 @ 9:00 am (CST)
 1. Regular monthly meetings moved to the first Wed of each month at 9 am (CST)
- ii. GMD4 Annual Meeting: February 10 @ 1:30 pm (CST)
- iii. Water in Kansas Webinar Series; FEWtures Project: Economic Feasibility of Ammonia Production and Water Treatment Using Locally Produced Wind Energy; February 11th @ 2:00 pm (*information about webinar is available on the KWO website*)

The meeting was adjourned at 10:17 AM (CST).